

For at least a few more weeks, this is still North America's No. 1 Dippzine,

THE NEW

#39

BRUTUS BULLETIN

ET TU, BRUTE

SOLE HOME OF FAST GAMES

The New BRUTUS BULLETIN is a newsletter of postal zines published every two weeks by John Michalski, Rt 10, Box 5260, Moore, Oklahoma 73165. Subs are available at the rate of 25¢ an issue, or 16 of these for a paltry \$4. tBB is dedicated to running a few games fast and cheap, nothing more, but welcomes letters and assorted filler of all sorts and will print same intact. All views are welcome, almost; rightist stuff is my personal favorite, but even John Boardman will receive an unedited hearing. And you can't be farther from the right than JB!

OPENINGS don't formally exist just now, although games will open again later this year. HOWEVER, I do have a couple of folks interested in another 10-day-deadline game: if enough interest is shown by others, I will start another wild 'n' hairy Special like 79E currently in.

FOLDING: Despite obituaries in numerous other zines, tBB isn't folding. What HAS folded is my old format of 11-sheet issues every two weeks. I continue on in my new format of issues containing whatever material is at hand every few weeks, 6 pages or 22, whatever it comes out to. Most of the confusion was caused by my not being clear enough in my earlier announcements; part is no doubt due to my breaking hobby tradition by giving refunds of sub balances instead of just keeping the money and giving folks less for it (but not at all). But this I never planned nor wanted for this to be just another Dippzine.

1979 Leader Poll

The End is drawing near! Yea, in only a few short weeks (the end of June, to be precise), John Leader will once again tally his ballots for North America's Number 1 Dippzine, a title that the BRUTUS BULLETIN has humbly (?) carried in banner headlines all this past long year. BE SURE you send in your ballot: THIS IS YOUR CHANCE to be heard on zines that are slow, maybe folded, irregularly GM'ed, or otherwise not to your liking. (Us GM's don't mind hearing from you either...). Anyhow, just list all the zines you get, rate them from 1-10, 10 being great, sign it, add a note as to your hobby position such as "publish XXX", "player in 79ZZ", whatever, and send it in. You can also rank GM's by name the same way. PLEASE vote on zines; your voice could be 2% of the total if the turnout is as low as it was last year. Let's hear what you like or dislike. John will keep your votes confidential, of course. The New BRUTUS BULLETIN also humbly requests your consideration. Write John at

John Leader
2202 Broadway Rd NW
Calgary, Alberta T2N 3H8
CANADA

(156
stamp
done 1/1)

123
11

First, this will be mailed about a week later than some of you (and I) expected it to go out; lots of material that seemed worthy of inclusion came in at the end, and by the time I get all this stuff typed and run.... Anyway, the new 5400 machine is here and, after 13 days, is now working, so at least some of this will come out better than some recent ones have. Odds and ends in the news include:

SKYLAB CONTEST: Jim Bumpas, 948 Lorraine Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022, is having a contest to see who can guess where Skylab will fall, when, and how many people will get killed by it. (Jim has a strange sense of humor...). Anyhow, you can win one of 3 free subs and/or a free game if you come close, and his announcement in the last **LIBERTERREAN** said nothing about it being limited to current subbers, so what the heck, send in a guess.

NEED A GAME? The new list is due out any day, and will probably arrive the day I mail these out. All that aside, Lee never announces his OWN for some reason, so I will. He is opening 1 regular game in his **WHY ME?** which I definitely recommend for its promptness and reliability, which is more than can be said for some of those you will see on his formal **NEED A GAME** list. Write Lee at 4347 Benner St, Philly 19135.

(PASSCHENDAELE)

COAs and corrections: Francois Guerrier, effective last month, to "2005 Thompson Residence"; rest of his address stays the same, "Univ of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ont K1N 9A7". Also, John Kelley (**BEHOLDER**) is at Box 35, Klickitat, WA 98628. Note correction to ZIP code.

OLD MEN, attention! If you don't sub to **WHY ME?**, get on the bandwagon! Lee Sr reports that most respondents to his survey were over 30, and Curtis Gibson's age of 114 or whatever does NOT skew it as I thought, as Lee says he doesn't sub. Address above.

THE WARGAME should get started in this issue, or at least a copy of the initial defense will appear. See notes inside somewhere (I hope) on this.

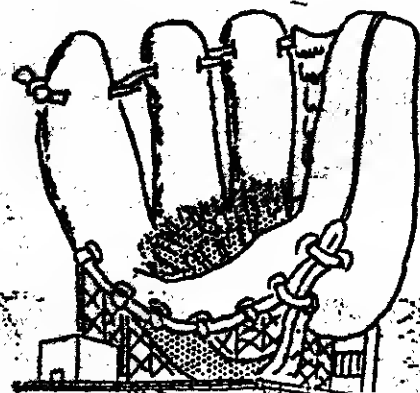
STANDBYs may become a thing of the past, as Jerry Jones announces that his (Pat's) next regular Dip game will be played without them, joining the bandwagon started by, I believe, Francois Guerrier. While this may give Ron Kelly a few less entries, I personally think it's a good idea. Start with 7 and take your chances. If your friends or enemies decide to go fishing instead, that's the breaks. No renogiating in Fall 01 with new or possibly-new players, or in an end-game run, etc. I plan to follow that myself in the next 10-day deadline game somewhere down the line.

Speaking of 10-Day-Deadline games, you might take a look at 79E inside. There's been quite a bit of action lately. I think 4 seasons of it appear this issue, with another deadline coming up next Thursday the 21st and still another July 1st. Check and see what you're missing out on!

RE INCARNATION? Did you hear about the woman who want to a medium to contact her recently departed husband? She asked him, through the medium, how he was doing. "Oh, just fine. It's so beautiful here. The sky is a wonderful turquoise blue; the clouds, puffy and brilliant white...and the cows, ah, so many beautiful cows: brown ones, white ones, black ones, brown and white ones, red and white ones..." "Cows? I didn't think they had COWS in heaven." "Heaven? Who's in heaven? I'm a BULL in Argentina!"

How quickly can you find out what is so unusual about this paragraph? It looks so ordinary that you would think nothing was wrong with it at all and, in fact, nothing is. But it is unusual. Why? If you study it and think about it you may find out, but I am not going to assist you in any way. You must do it without coaching. No doubt, if you work at it for long it will dawn on you. Who knows? Go to work and try your skill. Par is about a

SKYLAB
RECOVERY
FACILITY:
NASA



MAY 18 1979

79H

FROGS MAKE A SECOND LONG SEA LEAP TO REINFORCE FIRST ONE.
CZAR MISSES, CREATES A LOT OF QUESTIONABLE RETREATS.
ITALIAN ATTEMPT TO COPY FRENCH MOVES FALLS FLAT.

Summer, 1903: Austrian F Bulsc r AEG
Russian A Rum NRR, r OTB

FALL, 1903:

AUSTRIA (Hamill): A Vie-GAL; A BUD S A Vie-Gal; A Rum-BUL; F AEG S A Rum-Bul

ENGLAND (Mitchell): F Nwg-EDI; F Nth-BEL; F ENG S F Nth-Bel; A Nwy-STP

FRANCE (Brown): A Pic-BRE; A Gas-CLY; F MAO & F NAT C A Gas-Cly; A LPL S A Gas-Cly

GERMANY (Kirchner): F Hlg-NTH; F HOL S F Hlg-Nth; F BAL S A Den-Swe; A Den-SWE;
A Bel H/d/r Pic, Bur, Ruh, Otb; A Sil-WAR

ITALY (Guajardo): A Tri-ALB; A TUN-Syr; F EAS & F ION C A Tun-Syr; F GRE S AUST
A Rum-Bul

RUSSIA (Christopher?): NMR! A UKR, FIN H; A Gal H/d/r Rum, Boh, Sil, Otb; F BLA H;
F Swe H/d/r Ska, Nwy, GoB, Otb

TURKEY (Kassel): F Bulsc-Gre/ann.; A CON-Smy; F SYR-Smy

There was no press. Would STEPHEN CARTIER, 10640 Burton Street, Riverside,
CA 92503 please consider assuming the Russian position? Note that you do no have
to: should you choose to decline, you will NOT be player of record here. If you
do accept, let me know right away and I'll inform the other players of the situation.

Others: Moves may be conditional on retreats, removals, and builds. Note that
a separation will require 3 votes if Steve declines, 4 if he accepts the position.
Winter, 1903, and Spring, 1904, will be due with my mail received here MONDAY, June 4,
1979. Please be sure to list one set of any conditional orders as "all other
cases"!

1903:

A: Bud Vie Ser Edi Bul	4	Was 1 short, Even.
E: Lon Edi Edi Nwy(?) STP BEL	5or4	Build 1 or Even
F: Home Spa Por LVP	6	Build 1
G: Home Den Hol Edi SWE WAR	7	Build 1
I: Home Tri Tun GRE	6	Build 1
R: Edi Edi Edi Mos Sev Rum (Nwy?)	3or4	Remove some
T: Home	3	1 ann., build 1
	34	

John Michalski
Harper Oil Company
904 Hightower Building
Oklahoma City, OK. 73102

JUN 4 1979

79E

ONE AUSTRIAN FLEET HOLDS FIVE OTHERS IN
PLACE AS WARSAW, SEVASTOPOL CHANGE HANDS.

MAY 19 1979

Winter, 1905: French F Tyn r OTB

SPRING, 1906

AUSTRIA (Frost): A Rum-SEV; A UKR S A Rum-Sev; F Con-BLA; A BUL-Con; F AEG S
A Bul-Con; A War-Mos/d/r Gal, Otb; F ION-Tyn; A Gal-SIL;
A BOH S A Gal-Sil; A TYO-Ven

ENGLAND (Shaffer): A Lon-YOR; A STP S TURKISH A Mos; F ENG-Mid; F NTH-Eng; F WES-Tyn

FRANCE (Berch): A ROM-Ven; F Nap-APU

GERMANY (Kador): A Lvp-WAL; F MAO-Wes; A MUN H; A BUR S A Mun; A Sil-WAR; A FRU S
A Sil-War; F BAL, F LVN H

ITALY (Pilant): A Mar-PIB; F Spasc-GLYO; F Por-SPAsc

TURKEY (Baumeister): F TUN-Ion; F SMY-Con; A ANK S F Smy-Con; A Sev-Ukr/d/r Arm, Otb;
A MOS S GERMAN A Sil-War

Press:

Carthage-Austria Hungary: I didn't know that you were a winner.

From: Italo-Iberian-Empire-in-Exile

To: Rest of World

To wit- Now how the hell did I manage this?!

FALL, 1906, will be due with my mail received here THURSDAY, May 31, 1979, and may be made conditional on the retreats. Make one set of conditionals "all other cases" as well. With the excellent tactics displayed this turn, this Fall should be something to look forward to.

LATE NOTE: There is a call for an A-E-F-G-T draw. No vote received will count as a NO.

Late Press, 10-day Special ((raw +
uncensored))

England to Austria: I thought that you were going to see me out of the game, Jack????? It seems that you are the one heading for a ring side seat of the action as a spectator. Want to place any bets on who leaves first, you or the GTE alliance?????

London Daily Press (UPI): Now as the war enters a new phase, we see that all of the nations have gathered against the asshole in charge of Austria. It is utterly amazing that such hard core enemies as England and Germany should join in a holy war. It must be due to an unequalled pervert playing Austria.

London Associated News (AP): Today the Prime Minister announced that the home fleet will enter enemy waters this spring. This fall we shall be able to start the first of many strategic advances against the enemy. Long live Germany.

79E

Summer, 1906: Austrian A War r GAL
Turkish A Sev r ARM

Draws fail.

FALL, 1906

AUSTRIA (Frost): F Ion-NAP; A BUL-Con; F AEG S A Bul-Con; F BLA S A Sev;
A SEV S A Ukr; A UKR & A GAL S A Sil-War; A Sil-WAR; A TYO-Mun; A BOH S A Tyo-Mun

ENGLAND (Shaffer): A STP-Mos; F Wes-SPAsc; F Eng-BEL; F Nth-EDI; A Yor-LVP

FRANCE (Berch): A Rom-VEN; F APU S A Rom-Ven

GERMANY (Kador): A WAL H; F Mid-WES; F Bal-BER; F Lvn-BAL; A War-Ukr/d/r Lvn, Otb;
A Pru-SIL; A MUN H; A BUR S A Mun

ITALY (Pilant): A Pie-TUS; F GLyo-TYN; F Spasc-POR

TURKEY (Baumeister): F Tun-ION; F SMY-Con; A ANK S F Smy-Con; A ARM-Sev; A MOS S
A Arm-Sev

There are calls for an EGIATF and an EGATF draw. No vote received will count as a NO.

DEADLINE for Winter, 1906, and Spring, 1907, will be my mail received here MONDAY, June 11, 1979. (Calls to LOAM). Lots of hairy press this time, too, following the record of infamy for 1906.

1906:	A: Home Ser Rum Gre Bul War Wah Con SEV NAP	11	Build 1
	E: Lon Nwy StP Bre Par Hol BEL EDI LVP SPA	10	Was 1 short, +5, will be 4 short
	F: Naz Rom VEN	2	Even
	G: Home Den Swe Wah Wah Lvp	5	Remove 3
	I: Por Wah Mar	-2	Remcve 1
	T: Ank Smy Wah Mos Tun	4	Remove 1
Press:		34	

From the English player: We, at least one member of the GTEIF Alliance against our common enemy, have one thing to say. That miss of the support by Turkey cost us one year in our move to control the Mediterranean. What would happen if I, England, failed to support your piss-ant army in Moscow??? Then you have the nerve to ask for me to get my support in the south from the Italian player. Not a cool move, turkey. If I guessed right, and I hope I did, I moved your damn fleet out of Tunis. You promised one thing when I started all this, complete cooperation when I needed it. Well, we can all see what you mean by cooperation. First, you can't even get your support right, and then you come out with your get-your-support-from-someone-else idea. Friend, you had better get your act straight before next turn or the support for Moscow will not be there. I am putting this in as press so Frost can look for it next turn. To say that you have me a little pissed is not true; I damn near didn't support it this turn. From now on, fella, life's a two-way street. I will support you only, and only, if you support me. If you cannot live by that, get the hell out of my way. Also Germany's.

«The Fall, 1903,
season has appeared in
C+F 102 as an
adjudication puzzle.»
J.M.

YALTA: Glad you finally figured it out, Jack. Who's writing the orders for you?
BERLIN: Rumor has it 'Grand Admiral' Shaffer landed at North Africa, rushed ashore, and shouted, "Cheetah-Kinte, I've found you at last!"
London: What stinks worse than a pot of Kraut?
Paris: The Ugly Kraut stirring it.

((From your GM: Some thoughtless publishers decried the idea of a 10-day-deadline game as idiotic, saying there is no time nor room for diplomacy; it would just drop down to a fast game of mindless tactics, they claimed. This season, all the calls, letters, cards, changes, counter-changes, and what-not, have certainly laid that BS to rest. Of the 2 dozen games I've played in or GMed, I have NEVER seen such a series of wild changes, lies, stabs, counter-moves, frantic notes, cards, calls, press, etc. While this is a high point in the game, anyone who claims there can be no diplomacy in a 10-day-deadline game has got to be an idiot.)) J.M.

Some ZINES RECEIVED

by your editor, this time

DIPLOMACY DIGEST 21/22, 21 pages, Mark Berch, 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA 22304 10/\$2.50. Hobby History theme issue. Not a typical one in that I didn't sit down and read it cover to cover when I got it (Slowing down in my old age?), but did read it through when I got the chance two days later. All articles, no games; should be the 1st one you sub to after your gamestarts are complete.

RUNESTONE 246,247,248,249,250, 2-6 pages each, weekly, but non-players like me receive a month's worth at a time 1½¢/page plus postage. Send any amount and he'll keep track. John Leeder, 2202 Broadview Rd NW, Calgary, Alberta T2M 3H8 Canada. John's RUNESTONE is today an old-line hobby standard. He runs Dip and variant games and is very reliable. Not much for non-players anymore, but did have a number of letters in this April batch. John is also active in the hobby, and R is something of a news center as to what's happening.

FOL SI FIE#111, 20 pages, monthly, 10/\$3, Randolph Smyth 275 Third St SE, #314, Medicine Hat, Alberta T1A 0G4 Canada. (At least once in their life, I think everyone ought to have to live in a town named something like "Medicine Hat"...). LOTS of material in addition to a ton of games. This issue really caught my fancy with a long lead article on the Canadian elections, but there's lots more. RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN, the best game of the campaign after my own, plus letters, and what Randolph is most famous for, play-of-the-game articles of his own. A really excellent product!

URF DURFAL #41, 12 pages 7/\$2, openings for \$5 plus sub. Greg Costikyan, 1675 York Ave, NY, NY 10028. Articles on SF/libertarianism, conscription ("Conscription is slavery"), an amusing reprint of a tongue-in-cheek "strategy" article for France, letters, games, commentary & filler. This is the best of the NY area zines.

REVENGE! #6, Carl Groppe and Dan Morris, 2591 University, University Hts, Ohio 44118. 6 pages, 10/\$4, openings in Dip (\$1), WOTR, En Garde!, KM, all \$2. Variant articles and games, 1st Dip game not yet started.

EGGNOG 28, 10 pages, 10/\$3.50, openings @ \$2 plus sub, also variants. Commentary, variants and games, press, letters, trivia quiz (He never prints my answers, for some reason...), demo game, filler. More reliable than many.

TOUCHE#5 8 pages, 8 sheets, Ramon Lazaro, 3824 Motor Ave, #25, Culver City, CA 90230. \$5/year, includes gamefees. Strictly Kingmaker, A Mighty Fortress, no Dip. Good reprc., may open Warlord. If you're into any of this, write for a sample.

CLAW & FANG #102, monthly, 10 pages, Dip puzzles, a press game without press, SF columns, dip play articles, wrap-ups, Traveller (game) article, some games. C&F is second only to GRAUSTARK these days for longevity, and at least I believe, is a lot more enjoyable than Graustark. If you only get 2 zines for reading, this should be one. (Dip Digest the other, FSF if you want 3...). Very reliable. Always has openings, \$3 plus sub; or, 1 game and 8 issues for \$6. Don Horton, 16 Jordan Court, Sacramento, CA 95826

Others received but not reviewed here: WHY ME 15, Italiano Pribe, Front de Liberation du Diplomacy, another Eggknog and Claw & Fang, and a warehouse issue of Urf Durfal. Time hasn't permitted expanding these notes to include them, sorry. Maybe I'll ship them all to Nathan Mitchell to write on again for us later??

J.M. *2nd H. Howe*

LETTERS

TONY WATSON (publisher of RURITANIA)

201 Minnesota St, Las Vegas, NV 89107

If I had more time, I'd take issue with you on a couple of points. I wonder what you base your comments about grad assistants vs McDonald ~~slaves~~ workers on. Having had experience with both (I worked at a local McDonalds for about a year when I was 16), I won't argue about conditions at the hamburger factory, but I think your conception of what TAs do is pretty distorted. I've known a few, had experience as a reader (who does everything short of teaching a regular class) and am now preparing for a full teaching position in the fall. I don't know what it was like where you sent to school, or at Univ of Okla, but its not babysitting here, or at any of the other schools I've had contact with. Perhaps you believe its just appearing for 3 hours a week and bullshitting?

About the Angola thing: the trouble is that US does not even measure such enterprises on their own merits. The US is a status quo power and status quo powers just don't behave that way. The question is not "why not Angola" but "why are we content to behave in a way that upholds the status quo, rather than follow policies that upset it--to our advantage?"

((I'd have to disagree, since we are actively LOSING the status quo, not only of our once-held world dominance, but even of approximate equilibrium. Why won't we even act to hang onto whatever little of the old status quo is left?

Per TAs, my own experiences are with Univ of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and OU, and based on what I saw, I'd answer your 1st paragraph with a Yes. See the following letter also.))

J.M.

MONTY HAYNER

958 E Lexington Dr, Lakeland, FL 33801

I do not know enough about the services that English grad assistant at the U of Okla provide; however, I can't help feeling that you would easily generalize the statement that English grad assts "are little more than fancy babysitters" to include all US professors and teachers.

As a Senior High Math teacher and part-time community college professor, I am the first to admit that for SOME unmotivated and apathetic students, I am a fancy babysitter. I am also the first to admit that teachers have more vacation time than common laborers (approximately 45 fewer workdays per year than those folks who have just 2 weeks vacation). But I take offense at the generalization I've projected you to say.

The fruits of our labor are not directly edible (as are the fruits of our Big Mac makers), but rather, they are indirectly apparent. The algebra, geometry, and calculus used by the engineers, architects, etc., etc., to build the McDonald's empire was taught by math teachers, no??

Granted, many, or perhaps most students who successfully complete algebra, geometry, or calculus courses do not use the learned information to help produce anything real or tangible. I contend, however, that often they have to some degree learned to think more analytically and/or logically. Is this not valuable?

We have been called fancy babysitters before and we will be called fancy babysitters again; but I hope, John, you think twice before saying something that could be similarly be generalized. By the way, consider this: The average family has a little more than 2 children in it. The average babysitter is paid a little more than a dollar an hour to babysit 2 average kids. I averaged 160 students per day, one hour per student, this year.

That would be 80 one-dollar babysitter fees per day. 180 of 196 teacher work days include students. $180 \times \$80 = \$14,400/\text{year}$. In my fifth year of teaching (with tenure), I'm being paid \$10,400. This does not include the time spent on lesson planning, test writing, test grading & averaging, report card work, extra help (withmath & personal problems). (Please excuse the sloppiness of this letter. The value in rewriting this is not logically apparent to me).

ENCLOSURES with Kelly's letter:

(Sampling; others were payment stubs, etc., & copies of Tretick's zine) J.M.

19781E

"OAKLYN" IS TRETICK

"Winter 1904"

Or maybe vice versa. But it has definitely been established that the dishonest and unreliable Gamesmaster who was a few years ago using the name "Buddy Tretick" is the same individual who is now playing Russia in this postal Diplomacy game, and publishing Le Front De Liberation du Diplomacy, as "Bernie Oaklyn".

GRAUSTARK set out to settle this mystery in January, and asked all readers the following questions: "Are you able honestly to set your name to the following statement: 'I have personally met both Buddy Tretick and Bernie Oaklyn, and I can honestly assert that they are two separate and distinct human beings?'" None of the over 100 readers of GRAUSTARK has been able to do this. In fact, several assert the contrary. For example, Jack Frost writes: "I have been quiet too long. I telephoned Bernie-Buddy in November of last year and started the conversation with 'Buddy?...What's going on?' Buddy-Bernie answered, 'Yes.' After this greeting, when I identified myself as Jack Frost he was quiet for about 30 seconds. I continued to make conversation as if I was talking to 'Bernie', addressing the person on the other end of the phone by that name several times. Bernie-Buddy then started to converse normally, probably thinking he had misheard my opening salutation.

"There is more, however. I have in my possession several envelopes and hand-writing samples from persons reported to be 'Stephen Andrews', 'Brian Edwards', and others from Silver Spring, Maryland. The unusual thing about them is they all have the same typewriter and scrawl used by Buddy-Bernie.

"When I accused Bernie-Buddy of being these persons he said they were kids that he had to help with their mail."

This is quite conclusive. There is the minor problem that perhaps "Oaklyn" is the real name, and that we all use "Tretick" simply because that name came to the attention of postal Diplomacy fandom a few years earlier. However, "Tretick" sounds like the sort of name that Real People have. "Oaklyn" sounds like what a contractor of Jerry-built houses would call a new suburban development.

"I would like to apologize to the honest players in 19781E for letting Tretick into this game before I knew that he was using the "Oaklyn" pseudonym. I want to assure all players in future GRAUSTARK games that if they have any reason for assuming that a new entrant is another Tretick pseudonym, they should let me know and I will suspend the opening of play until I have investigated the matter.

Tretick will continue to get GRAUSTARK at his "Oaklyn" address, since he may not be known there under his real name, and I want to make damn sure that he gets this. And, beginning with the "Spring 1905" moves, I am going to insist that he obey Postal Rule 11 as quoted on p. 5 of the last issue of GRAUSTARK. His moves in this game must be signed with his real name, Buddy Tretick, or they will not be printed. (Unless, of course, it happens that Oaklyn is his real name and Tretick is the pseudonym. If this is the case, then he need merely say so in his next letter, and his moves will be printed under the name "Oaklyn".)

GRAUSTARK #397

John Boardman
234 East 19th Street
Brooklyn, New York 11226
U. S. A.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Ronald M. Kelly
Apt. 314
6038 Richmond Highway
Alexandria, Virginia
22303

AT,IE



I got a letter from Bernie Oaklyn, who has been having some troubles with the standby policy that he uses in Le Front, his zine. In it, he gives his position on standby players, which is a little different, to say the least. It follows:

"Thanks to a letter sent to me by Lea Mendler, Sr., concerning the use of standby and replacement players in our games, and to noting exactly what has been happening in games in which I myself am a player and those that I have monitored in past this article emerges.

Let us first look at the fairness to each of the seven players in the game when one of them misses his moves. Consider the setback of a country if those orders fall within the first game year. Then consider the importance of missed moves somewhere down the pike. Each time orders are not given for a country, that country, and certainly its alliance structure, suffer a setback. And, neighboring countries gain a decided advantage, which is somewhat similar to real war where a commander failed to give an order, or did not plan ahead, and was a little late in setting up his defenses on offensives.

Nevertheless, a set of missed moves in this game results in hard feelings which must contribute at least substantially to a growing distaste for the game in the mind of the players. Surely none of the players need a win so badly that they would ask for a set of missed orders. Nor should they wish to condone a such missed orders. The gamesmaster is the key here. He is in a position to stop or at least minimize missed orders in his house rules. For instance, the GM can make as a requirement for enrollment in the game, that the player submit to him on a separate sheet of paper, properly dated and signed, and continually update the alliance structure for that country. The GM can announce that the last stated alliance structure on file will be used by a standby player whose name and address and telephone number that GM will publish under the game (giving each and every player a chance, if they dare, to negotiate in advance with the standby player). In addition, the GM should assign a standby player for that game. But, once that standby player has been assigned to report for duty under the name of a particular country, and has had the advantage of prior communication from the other players, that replacement player should not be given any other assignment in that particular game, else the GM has caused a violation.

Nowhere in our publications is there room for such statements by a GM that "orders were submitted by a neutral party", or some such nonsense. If it becomes necessary to call on a local player, or even write to another player and request that orders be submitted for a game, that person's name, address, and telephone number should be published under the game season that such orders are used, giving the other players the right and chance to verify those orders as coming from other than the gamesmaster, and that the standby player was given access to the alliance structure on file for that country and give the other players the right and chance to communications with that standby player far before that player supersedes the game with a published set of moves (which usually result in a stab). We see that there is a question of ethics here, and this is a problem to solve.

It is up to each and every GM to solve this problem for himself, under the pressure of the players in his zine if necessary. It is not the responsibility of certain persons, like one Rodney Walker, to police and condemn and ostracize any GM from the hobby because the GM uses certain practices. After all, if the players do not like to play under such practices, that players can take his money elsewhere and close down that GM once and for all. In fact, if certain policies are not liked by the players, they can most certainly get together and vote to take their game to another publisher and GM and get out from objectionable policies."

ATO Press

Craig A. Reges
1501 Higgins Hall-WIU
Macomb, Ill., 61455

You Are:
asked to standby

In new game

Sub Left

Ronald M. Kelly
6038 Richmond Highway
#314
Alexandria, VA,
22302

First Class FIRST CLASS FIRST CLASS FIRST CLASS FIRST CLASS

LETTERS

RON KELLY

6038 Richmond Hwy #314, Alexandria, VA 22303

In issue #38 of BB, you said that if anyone has any personal attacks, to send it to you and you'll print it. Therefore, enclosed is one for you to print:

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the article "Oaklyn Is Tretick" in issue 397 of GRAUSTARK, and also a letter from "Bernie Oaklyn" which appeared in the recent issues of several zines, such as RUNESTONE and AGAINST THE ODDS, in which "Oaklyn" attempts to defend his methods of GMing, and makes certain claims that his system of using standby players is a fair and honest system.

This reminded me of a previous experience I had with "Oaklyn". On 19 Jan 78 I sent him a money order for \$3.50 for a sub to his zine, and requested to be a standby for regular games of Diplomacy (see enclosures). I then received the 17 Feb 78 issue of his zine (see enclosures) in which he listed me as the standby player for the game 1978XX, which had not yet been assigned a BN.

There was nothing unusual about issue #2 of his zine, dated 15 March, giving the Spring 01 moves. I then received issue 3 of F.L.D. (Oaklyn's zine) dated 5 April 78 (see enclosures) in which Austria was listed as NMR. In spite of the NMR, the Austrian units moved, and it was stated that a Becky Cofman had submitted Austrian orders. However, there was no address given for this "Becky Cofman", in order to allow anyone to verify if such a person really existed. There was nothing in issue 3 which requested me to submit standby moves for Austria, and since the Fall 01 moves for Austria had been submitted by a third party, I assumed my position as a standby for this game had been overlooked, and thus I did not send in any Winter 01 orders for Austria, nor did I contact the GM in any way whatsoever. I assumed Austria would be played by either the original player or by the "Becky Cofman". You will also note that this issue lists Buddy Tretick as co-editor.

When I received issue #4 of F.L.D. dated 2 May 78, to my surprise and shock, I read that I had submitted winter 01 orders for Austria, as the original player had again NMR'd. This is an absolute and total lie, and proves beyond any doubt that Oaklyn-Tretick is an absolute liar, and a dishonest GM. I have never submitted any orders to any game whatsoever to Oaklyn-Tretick.

In this same issue, I was called on to submit Spring 02 orders for Austria, with the understanding that I would take over the Austrian position if the original Austrian player again NMR'd. However, since it was obvious that I was dealing with a dishonest GM, I chose not to send in orders for the game, as I did not want to get involved in games run by a GM I knew beforehand to be dishonest. I have been burned enough during my years in the hobby by GMs who I did not discover to be dishonest and/or incompetent until after I had gotten into their games (Rowland, Truman, Shamray, and others come readily to mind.).

In view of this proveable lie by Oaklyn-Tretick, I can't help but wonder if there really is a "Becky Coffman" or if this is another one of the many "front" names under which "Oaklyn" operates, and if in fact he didn't actually make the Fall 01 moves for Austria himself. Has anyone in the hobby ever heard of a "Becky Coffman"? This example is one of several reasons why I always wonder about, and frown on the practice of any GM who uses "phantom" or 'neutral' moves for NMRing countries in his games, except for those GMs who use pre-set spring and fall 1901 moves only, which have been published in his houserules for everyone to see beforehand.

In spite of the fact that I chose not to participate in any games in F.L.D., I did want to continue to receive the zine, and therefore I did not request a refund of the balance of my sub. However, Oaklyn-Tretick then cut off my sub, and never sent me another copy of F.L.D., nor did he refund my sub balance. Thus, in effect, he stole the balance of my sub money. Thus, in addition to being a liar and dishonest GM, he is also a THIEF!

In the article "Oaklyn is Tretick" in GRAUSTARK #397, Jack Frost states that

Kelly, cont'd

he has evidence that "Stephen Andrews", "Brian Edwards", and others are more "front" names under which Oaklyn-Tretick operates. I call upon Frost to reveal to us these "other" names, so that all hobby members can be aware of as many as possible of the many "ghost" and "front" names under which Oaklyn-Tretick operates. Also, I would like to point out that you will notice in the enclosures that "Andrews" and "Edwards" are the Russian and Turkish players in 1978XX in "Oaklyn's" zine FLD. Thus, in effect Oaklyn-Tretick was controlling at least two of the countries in the game he was GMing.

When I read Frost's statements, I was reminded of a player from Silver Spring MD I encountered in 1978, a "James Alan", who was a fellow player in a game in AGAINST THE ODDS. When I first encountered him, there was something about his letters (see enclosure), his style of writing, negotiating, etc., which reminded me of "Oaklyn". However, I decided there was probably no connection, as the phone numbers were different, and dismissed it from my mind. But after reading what Frost had to say, I decided to try to check this "Alan" out. I decided to call there late that night, when I would hopefully wake up the person answering, and thus catch him off guard. I called him a little after 11:00 pm, and a lady answered. I could tell from her voice that she had obviously been asleep. I said "Good evening, ma'm, may I speak to Bernie?" She responded, in a sleepy voice, "He doesn't live here, you'll have to call him at his house. This is where his son James lives". I asked "You mean James Alan?", and she answered, "of course, but he isn't here at the present time. Would you like to leave a message?" I then said, "No, thank you. I'll just call Bernie over at his house. By the way, you are speaking of Bernie Oaklyn, is that correct?", to which she responded, "Yes, would you like his phone number?" I said "No, thank you, I already have it", and hung up.

First of all, in the enclosures you will notice that James Alan of Silver Spring, MD is the German player in game 78XX which "Oaklyn" is GMing in his zine F.L.D.. This is further evidence that Oaklyn-Tretick is engaging in improper activities as a GM. The fact that James and Bernie have different last names is no big mystery, when you consider the possibilities of divorce, step-father, step-children, name changes, etc. There are several possible reasonable explanations.

The fact that Bernie Oaklyn is James Alan's father does not prove that Oaklyn and Tretick are the same person. In fact, it tends to show there really is a Bernie Oaklyn. But, it is one more piece of evidence to indicate that Oaklyn is engaging in underhanded and dishonest activities, and is capable of doing all the dishonest and illegal acts he has been accused of by various people in the hobby. From this, I would assume Oaklyn is his real name, and Buddy Tretick was a "front" name he used during his first entry into the hobby. My guess is that Tretick is his middle name, Buddy is his nickname, his full name is Bernard "Buddy" Tretick Oaklyn, and they are both one and the same person. In conclusion, I think that all games published and/or GMed by Oaklyn-Tretick should be declared irregular by the BNC, due to dishonesty and interference in the games.

((The above is slightly altered in so far as the original referred to specific enclosures, only two of which are reproduced in this issue. Others were money orders, FLD issues, and the like, plus the original of a letter from son James. I'd like to thank Ron for this expose', and would join in asking Jack Frost to give us the full list of actual and suspect names he has. In a way this is futile, in that a fraud like Tretick can invent names a lot faster than they can be discovered; but it can help reveal some past and current ones such as these games where Oaklyn is already 2 or 3 of the players. Another question I would ask is why, with all this monkey business so obviously going on, are there still people signed up for his upcoming games, esp. Frost himself, according to lists I see in FLD II-6? Oh, well. Reductions of some of Ron's enclosures follows, and then on to some more letters.))

J.W.

JOHN KELLEY (publisher of BEHOLDER)

Box 35, Klickitat, WA 98028

Re: Smyth-Michalski exchange: I (if I may be so rude as to butt in) consider the free world to be: all of North America, all NATO nations, Israel, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden/Denmark/Finland, and Yugoslavia and Austria (to an extent). Now Randolph is quite right in saying that we all must stick together; I cringe when I hear Americans cutting Canada or vice versa. Maybe in 1950 the US could handle the entire Communist/Socialist bloc (Warsaw Pact) alone, but we are crippled by a chicken, BS government that is in effect a eunuch when it comes to diplomatic muscle. I believe that our cowardly establishment has done this to us. For example: if we'd crossed the Yalu in 1950, bombed Cuba to rubble (conventionally) and slapped the Soviet bear in the chops when he infringed on us, we'd be all right now. Yalta was the first step, I think.

Thanks for putting up with my opinions.

((Always glad to hear them. Just be ready to hear some counter-opinions in often harsh terms from some in the crowd!

I would drop Yugoslavia from your list and add all of the new world except Cuba to your list, plus Rhodesia & South Africa, etc. Of course with Andy Young in there giving the US view, the latter lands may soon join the central African group being "stabilized" by the presence of Communist troops (Cubans, East Germans, whatever other dregs they care to throw in). I have to wonder to what extent, though, this admittedly gutless and nitwit regime we suffer under really in fact represents the real will (or lack thereof) of the people. Personally, I think the 'average citizen' is appropriately represented by the hand-wringing grinners that pass as current US leadership. The leaders are indecisive nitwits, true, but doesn't that in fact represent exactly the nature of a hell of a lot of "man-in-the-street" types?)) J.M.

MARK BERCH (publisher of DIPLOMACY DIGEST)
(2 letters)

492 Naylor Place, Alexandria VA
22304

I thought I'd toss in a few comments on your house rules. Considering the fact that they are quite short, they are VERY good---yours are the first I've seen that cover the incomplete order. Do you print the name of the person requesting the draw or concession vote? The biggest omission is this: Does a draw have to include all the survivors, i.e., can T,R,A,G all vote to have a RA draw? Does NVR count as a yes or a no? Proxy orders? Can, say, Fall 1904 orders be made conditional on whether a player did OTB vs No Ret received, i.e., do A if OTB, do B if NVR? What about the unwanted, unnecessary convoy paradox? Do you allow perpetual orders?

Incidentally, what do you mean, subs are optional? Do you accept phone orders? I've spoken to two people on the phone in this game, and they both happened to mention what a reliable GM you were.... In that regard, in Fall 05, I notice that you list both A Smy and F Smy for Turkey. Ooh, nasty, aren't I?

** Moving on to BB (unnumbered) of April 10--this was quite a shock, especially since the FOL SI FIE came the same day. Unfortunately, page 1 and page 2 don't seem to agree with each other; its unclear what you intend to do. ((Page 2 is correct)) J.M.

It seems to me that you are somewhat overreacting to something. You can't apparently keep up your old pace, so now you are planning to go to the other extreme, the warehouse route. You say you don't want to become "just another Dipzine". To begin with, there's no dishonor in that (says he, who runs no games at all in his attempt not to be just another dipzine)--many fine zines are or started just that way. Second, and more important, with 2 week deadlines, you'd never be just another Dipzine anyhow.

If the present system is too much work, then modify it, don't drop it. Keep to a strict 1 oz limit. Alternatively, why not alternate issues: once a month do the full 1 or 2 oz issue, depending on how much you feel you can do and the off-beat issues (mid month) would be just the games flyer. There would be 2 sub rates, depending on whether you wanted the flyers or not. And if thats too much,

BERCH, cont'd

one regular issue every 6 weeks, separated by 2 flyers.

Please think about it. The reduction of BB to a warehouse zine would be a loss to the hobby, even though you'd be performing a hobby service with 14 day games. But above all, please CLARIFY your position. I have spoken to 2 people about BB and both were confused (as I was) about your intentions.

Will you be at DIPCON?

((Normally I'd just say no, but there's a 1 in 1000 shot that I would fly to Houston and ride in with Steve McLendon or some such. I'm thinking about it, but probably won't go. It's just too far.

I certainly appreciate all your flattering remarks, implied or overt. Basically I am in fact following your outline: the games ALWAYS go to players on a flyer on deadline day (and always have,--sometimes the next day though) and are reprinted here only "for the record". What I think I'll do in the future is to REDUCE the games first and THEN run them; I really doubt many non-players are following them, altho the press is sometimes good. That way perhaps I can cut down on the size. Right now I'm using a whole page per game per SEASON, which is extreme by hobby standards; while I dislike finding a game I'm in lodged in as a cramped paragraph in some one ELSE's zine, a whole page is a bit extravagant. Up to now I've done so out of sheer laziness: the page you see is what I prepared for the players that deadline day, and I just delete (unless I forget!) the top line that says "Outrider to your Brutus Bulletin" and use it as a master for a page in the zine. This might permit more loz issues with just as much filler as an 'average' issue, if I ever get an average one. It seems I'm either buried under stuff, like letters this time, or else hard pressed to find ANYthing at all! So it goes.

The BB of April 10 was probably #37: the number only appears on the cover, and on 37 it virtually vanished in repro. Look real close in the upper right quadrant...

On to houserules. Everything about draws here is secret: submitter, votes, and even part of the RESULTS! I only print that 1) there has been a call for an XYZ draw, and 2) whether it passed or failed. No tallies are given. I don't specify the NVR situation in the houserules because it varies with cases; I indicate at the time of call, whether an NVR will count as a Yes or No. Basically they are always No unless the call is for a reasonably obvious and fair result. The game concludes whenever a draw passes. I've heard draws and/or concessions have gone to people earlier eliminated, powers in CD, etc.; I'd do that here if the players so voted. It's THEIR game; aside from calling NVR=No, should a unanimous vote go for a concession to Iceland, that's what I'd put down. Yes, I do allow orders to be conditional on NRR vs a specific "r OTB" order, since this is something that "should" be published before the players are required to submit next season's orders. To same time, I call for conditionals instead. But since the rules permit--indeed, require--that results appear "first", such conditionals are acceptable here. For the unwanted, unnecessary convoy, I would rule that the convoy was irrelevant and adjudicate accordingly. Since I ENCOURAGE people to submit provisional orders ahead of time by 1 season (seldom heeded, I might add), I'd certainly have to accept an order of "A TUN H forever" so, yes, perpetual orders would be accepted. Phone orders, a reluctant Yes.

A/F Smy was a typo: just forgot to paint it out before running it.

Whew; anyway, I really do appreciate your writing at length (---Parts dealing with games and other items have been deleted---) for it tells ME when I don't make stuff clear. Such as when both Watson & Baumeister (RURITANIA and EGGNOG) announced my "fold" just a few short weeks before the Leeder balloting closes, grrrr. I've sent out some clarifying notices to various pubbers to use as short filler items to help clear the air on this. Maybe it will help me in the '80 poll... Oh, and subs are optional because you don't need the issues at all to see your game results as you go. I have one player in that status now.)) J.M.

X Bureaucratic Blunders

The helpful bureaucrats at the Illinois Department of Transportation have spent \$7,000 producing a booklet chock full of ideas for how citizens can limit flood damage to their homes. Suggestion number one: The homeowner can jack up his house, so the flood waters "simply flow underneath, causing no damage"—although the booklet admits that during a flood, this leaves the house standing cranelike in the middle of a temporary lake, "making access difficult." Preferable, therefore, would be moving the house to higher ground, though the bureaucrats concede this would be more expensive.

Homeowners, the booklet cautions in another section, should beware of sump pumps during a storm, since "pumps that use house current may stop running if electricity is lost during the storm." May stop running? Perhaps the helpful bureaucrats could give examples of when an electric pump didn't stop running when the electricity went out.

(submitted by Janis McGillivray)

A man whose wife broke her toe in a motorcycle accident six years ago was just awarded \$180,000 by a Utica, Mich., jury as compensation "for loss of consortium." The victim, Barbara Osantowski, and her husband admit their sex life wasn't affected by the accident, and even their lawyer calls the award "terribly excessive." Barbara said they didn't know how they'd spend the money, but "we'll start by buying a new house."

(submitted by Ronald Trowbridge)

Daffy grants category: The National Science Foundation has given \$32,996 to Johns Hopkins philosophy professor



The gold-lettered HUD security door at left is one of four glass security doors installed by the Dept. of HUD in the corridors leading to the offices of HUD Secretary Patricia Harris. The doors, which cost nearly \$58,000, are useless because HUD refuses to keep them closed. Even if locked, visitors could use the adjoining door (right) to circumvent the security door.

(submitted by Dan M. Jacobson)

Peter Achinstein to study "The Nature of Explanation" and \$22,852 to John Dean of the University of South Carolina to study "A New Method for Age Determination in Fish: Testing the Use of the Otolith."

Chicagoan Joe Wright is receiving a \$750 per month artist-in-residence grant from the city and Uncle Sam to perfect the art of body drumming; Wright slaps himself all over, making different sounds when he hits different places.

(submitted by David A. Johnson)

HEW gave \$35,000 to Donna (Tex.) High School to teach aviation to 33 children of migrant workers because school superintendent Ruben Rodriguez was worried about the high

dropout rate for migrant students and thought the flying program might heighten student interest in school. Instruction includes solo flying, at a cost of \$20 per hour for the plane and \$10 per hour for the instructor.

(submitted by Harold B. Johnson)

And in the regulatory overkill category: The Federal Mine Safety Administration will soon require everyone who works in southeastern Wisconsin gravel pits to take a course (at company expense) in underground mine safety; no worker at any of these pits ever works below ground. And the Consumer Product Safety Commission ordered insulation manufacturers to conduct a 30-day test on their product and report the results to them—and gave the manufacturers only 26 days to comply.

(submitted by Norman E. Duane)

Sometimes the taxpayer wins one: The Rockingham and Stafford (New Hampshire) Employment and Training Consortium wants to return \$3 million in unneeded CETA funds. "We did our very best to spend the money but we had no takers," explained consortium director Judy Gustafson. "I looked everywhere I could to find people who wanted to benefit from the CETA program and nothing worked."

"In three months I spent \$3,500 advertising in every daily, weekly and shopping center newspaper read in the area. We put ads on every radio station that covers the seacoast—AM, FM and even country and western. We got only a handful of takers."

Federal bureaucrats are dumbfounded. "It's never happened before, so we're not quite sure exactly what we do about money being returned to us," said Ed Leslie, a regional desk officer for the Department of Labor.

(submitted by Gene Malone)

Michael Novak

The Soviet mood: 'One of war'

A pseudonymous American living in Moscow has contributed a most important new insight into the decline of the West as seen from Russia.

Writing in the March 31 issue of *The New Republic*, "Robert Herr" reports on a multitude of conversations he has had with ordinary Russians over the last

several months. All predict an imminent war with the United States, in which "Soviet military power will crush the new flabby American military."

"The mood within the Soviet Union," Herr writes, "is clearly one of war." The "Russians perceive a weakness in America." A political information officer told him "how certain he was that in the next decade his country would be at war with either China or America. We should go to war sooner rather than later, he said, for if we wait another 10 years China may acquire the technology to beat Russia."

"This Soviet officer wore jeans; he loved Stevie Wonder and American rock. 'It's a shame to think that your country will be destroyed,' he said. 'Without America, this country would really be a prison. Such a shame.'"

Roy Medvedev, the famous physicist, told Mr. Herr that "the Soviet Union is moving in one direction — toward the strengthening of our military might . . . Our country is a military machine. We are continuing now as we did in World War II . . . We won because our system allowed the spending of colossal resources for one purpose alone — military strength . . . Americans are fools. They come to Russia, stay in our hotels, eat in the restaurants and find out that everything here is badly run . . . Then they return to the United States with the conclusion that since Russia can't run a hotel, it can't build a rocket either. They don't realize that we put everything into rocketry, that the government doesn't care whether or not anything is left over for the population . . . Americans cannot keep up with this kind of a system."

Medvedev added: "Nixon couldn't beat tiny Vietnam because the country was too divided to win a war. We

sent a few thousand troops down to Angola and we took over the place in just a few weeks."

Mr. Herr confesses that before he went to the USSR, he held views like those officially expressed by the early Carter administration, especially by U.S. SALT negotiator Paul Warnke, specifically "that the Soviet Union was ruled by responsible, conservative officeholders who would not risk their privileges with an expansionist foreign policy. It seemed absurd at that time to think in terms of the old bipolar world . . . But Russians have taught me that such notions as East versus West, however much the West may wish them to disappear, are still thriving in the East."

For those of us who are not experts, it is hard to know who is right about Soviet intentions.

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, in a brilliant, if loosely-constructed speech at the Naval Academy on March 22, cited the White Paper of the British Defense Ministry, which points out that "the Communist bloc has a 50 per cent edge over NATO in submarines, a 30 per cent edge in surface ships, three times as many tanks and heavy guns, and more than twice as many fixed-wing tactical aircraft — well beyond what can be considered necessary for purely defensive purposes."

Most of my friends, I find, are not aware of the actual amounts the U.S. has been spending on arms. Moynihan points out that we have not built a new strategic missile launcher since 1967. Half of our defense budget goes for salaries and personnel costs. Another 35 per cent goes for maintenance of facilities. Only about \$9 billion goes for strategic nuclear forces. For arms and ammunition, expenditures total barely \$20 billion.

By contrast, the Soviets spend far more than we do, a far larger proportion of their resources, and do not count most personnel costs in their military budget.

Perhaps — let us all hope — there will not be war. Yet in our national psyche, the mass media thrive on images of disaster. Our minds may say peace, but our imaginations are saying disaster.

Leonid Brezhnev is very ill. By the early 1980s, when Soviet power in virtually every sphere will exceed ours, even though there will still be a rough balance of ultimate terror, the Soviets will have a new government.

What sort of government will it be? It probably will be younger. "Very possibly," Moynihan points out, "it will be a government of uncertain or at least untested legitimacy, a government that might well desire a test of strength." Its power in relation to ours will be at an all-time favorable point.

The next eight years promise to be the most dangerous the United States has ever gone through. In 1962, when the Soviets had only 60 to 70 truly strategic weapons, while we had about 2,000 missiles and bombs, the Soviets did not hesitate to put missiles in Cuba. Now that they have parity, and even superiority in many respects, will they be more timid? They may well calculate that to delay is the more dangerous course.

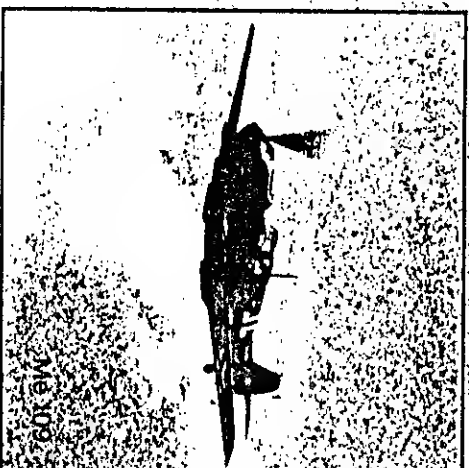
After 15 years of anti-war feeling, it is difficult for the public to face new realities. Such a turn was required once before, at the beginning of World War II. This time, we will not have the luxury of suffering a surprise attack and months of early defeats.

It is more than irony that peace is obtained by preparation for war. It is a moral responsibility.

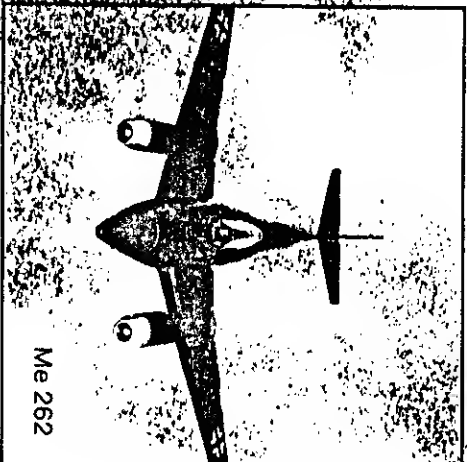
— Ron Kelly

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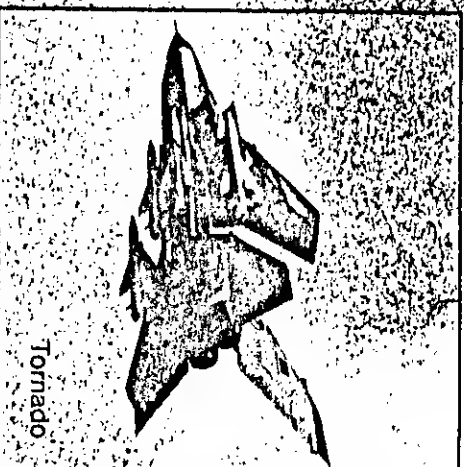
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DIPLOMACY TOURNAMENT - ORIGINS '79/DIPCON XII By John Boyer

For those of you who are planning on coming to Widner College, Chester, PA, to attend Origins '79 will have the chance to enter and compete in the National Diplomacy Tournament. This year's tournament represents both the official Origins '79 tourney as well as the 12th annual DipCon. Early flyers on Origins '79 has this tournament listed for Avalon Hill, but this is no longer true and has been transferred to my care and under the above name.

Unfortunately, convention organizers decided themselves what the days and times would be for the three rounds. We have finally straightened them out, and they promised to send out correction sheets to all who pre-registered by mail. The correct times and days are:

Saturday, June 23rd: Round 1 is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Round 2 is from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 24th: Round 3 is from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There will be a room for a meeting of postal Diplomacy hobbyists after the end of the second round. Information on the exact location of the room(s) is not known, but I have been assured it will be sufficiently large and air conditioned.

Entry fee has been set at \$2. You can pre-register if you have a copy of the schedule and pre-registration flyer. I'm sure you can get one from: Origins '79 c/o Strategy & Fantasy World, Valley Forge Shopping Center, King of Prussia, PA 19406.

There are several motels/hotels within 10-15 minutes of the campus. Also, there is dormitory lodging available. Cost for the latter is \$9 a night and includes linen. In all cases, I urge those coming to pre-register and reserve rooms as early as you can to avoid disappointment.

The Diplomacy tournament, as stated above, will be a 3 round affair. The Berch scoring system will be used. (printed in several postal hobby dipzines). The first two rounds will be set up randomly except to avoid family-relationships and Zipcode proximities. Of course, no one will play the same country twice. A cadre of stand-bys is being solicited. These people will be my "helpers" and for their sacrifice (to give up chances for prizes) to fill out those boards with less than 7 players, they will receive free passes to the con. I need 5 such helpers. Please write to me ASAP, if you are interested. You will have to be mature, reliable, and knowledgeable in the game. You will be expected to play a fair and dependable game, both as fill-ins (for a full 7 man game) and to replace drop-outs. You may even be required to play more than one game at a time, but we will avoid this if at all possible. It is most likely you will play, and if not, then you will be helping me with the record-keeping, etc. If you are coming and are interested, write to: John Boyer, 117 Garland Dr., Carlisle, PA 17013

Prizes? Yes, there will be trophies for the top three. Also, there will be trophies for each of the 7 best countries. In addition, Avalon Hill will be contributing free subscriptions, I understand. Last, but not least, Jerry Jones is offering Free subs for each of the best 7 countries.

Scores of the players for the first two rounds will not be posted although each player will be allowed to know his own score. What he does with that is his own business, but we're not going to advertise it, and if we're not around, it won't be available. About the only time players will know is after the first round, and at the start of the third, which will be seeded. Of course, the final results will be made available.

I will be devising a manual card system to quickly process the tournament players. Most likely, we will sort both by name as well as Zipcode. Again, if anyone wants to help out, please write me ASAP. A free convention pass is worth \$8.00. I will have to send in the names at least two weeks prior to the convention so that proper tags and allowances are made.

I hope that this report will encourage you to come to Origins '79 and enter DIPCON XII.

Courtesy of Lee Kender, Why Me? #16